



State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
PO Box 700  
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0700

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

JENNIFER VELEZ  
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

July 5, 2011

Honorable Paul Sarlo, Chair  
Senate Budget and Appropriations  
Committee  
Senate Majority Office, State House  
P.O. Box 099  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0099

Honorable Nellie Pou, Chair  
Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Assembly Majority Office, State House  
P.O. Box 098  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0098

Dear Senator Sarlo and Assemblywoman Pou:

Enclosed is the Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) Quarterly Progress Update for the quarter ending December 2010.

This report reflects the current trend of clients receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and General Assistance (GA) benefits. During this quarter, an average of 1,050 clients (TANF and GA combined) left WFNJ for employment each month. The average wage of TANF clients who became employed was \$9.58 per hour.

I welcome your comments on any of the issues discussed in this report. If you would like additional information, please contact me or Jeanette Page-Hawkins, Director of the Division of Family Development, at 609-588-2401.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Velez", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Jennifer Velez  
Commissioner

JV:14

Enclosure

c: Jeanette Page-Hawkins  
Andrew Hendry, Senate Democratic Office  
James A. Harkness, Senate Republican Office  
William Caruso, Assembly Democratic Office  
Richard Wright, Assembly Republican Office  
Lori O'Mara-Van Driesen, OLS, OPI



## **WORK FIRST NJ**

### **Quarterly Progress Update December 2010**

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF  
HUMAN SERVICES**

**Division of Family Development**

**Jeanette Page-Hawkins  
Director**



***Jennifer Velez  
Commissioner***



## Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) Quarterly Progress Update

### Quarter Ending December 2010

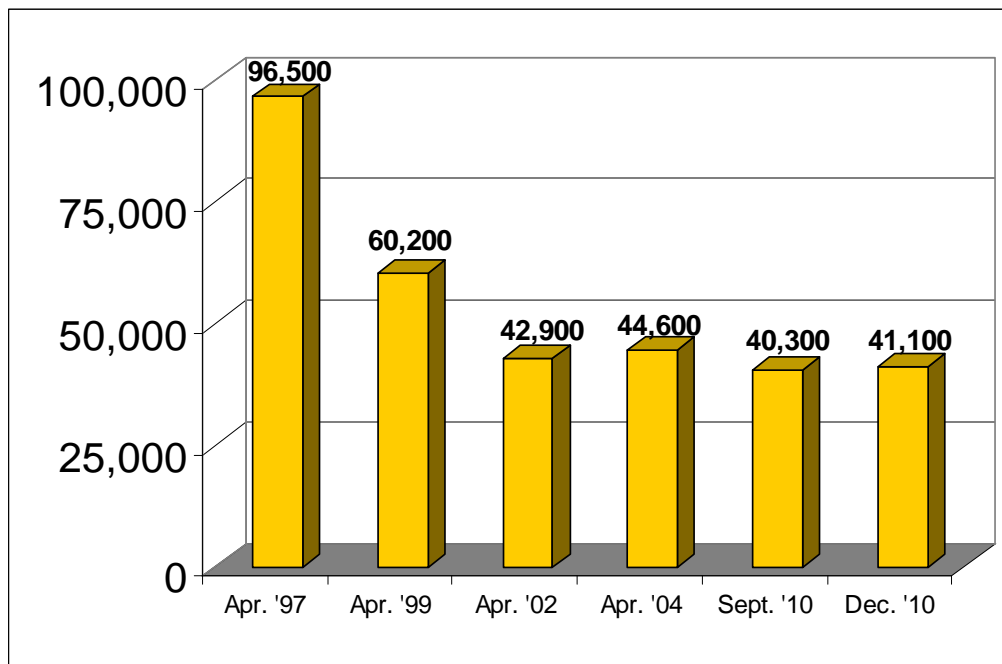
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#### 1. Work First NJ Caseload

##### •Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

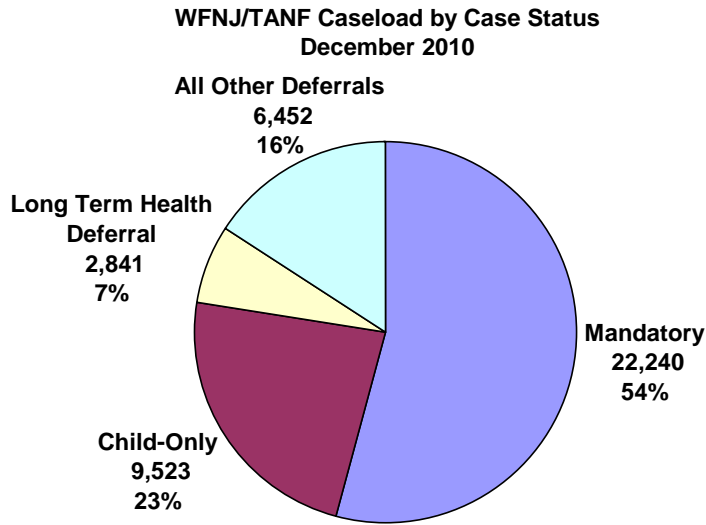
The number of families receiving WFNJ/TANF totaled approximately 41,100 as of December 2010, a slight increase from the September 2010 caseload.

WFNJ TANF Caseload



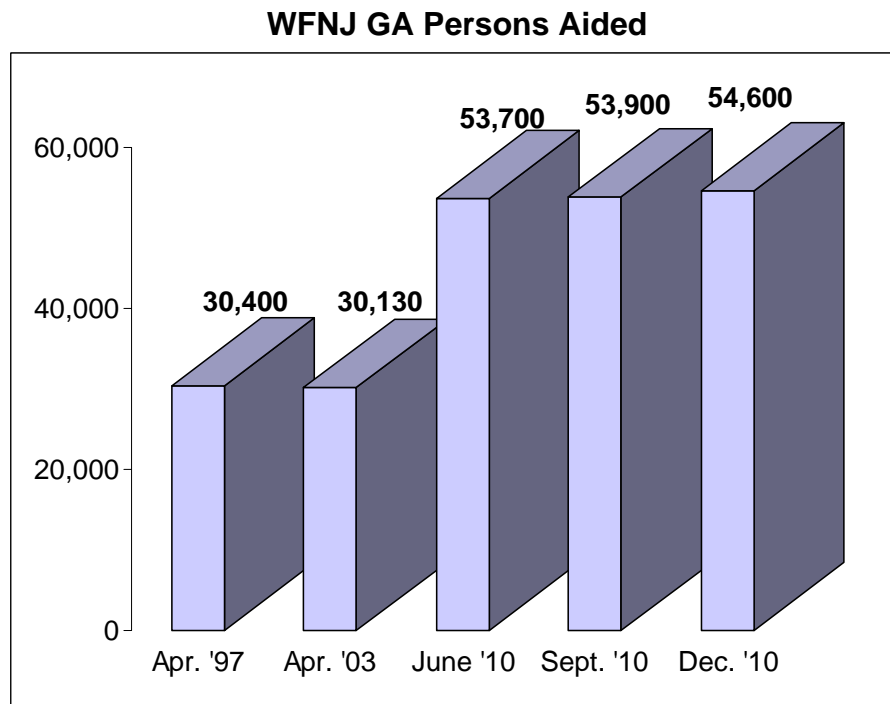
**•Client Deferrals and Exemptions**

Of the total TANF caseload of 41,100, about 22,200 cases (54 percent) were those with adults in the household who must comply with WFNJ/TANF work requirements.



**•General Assistance (GA)**

As of December 2010, there were approximately 54,600 General Assistance (GA) persons aided in New Jersey, continuing an upward trend in this program.



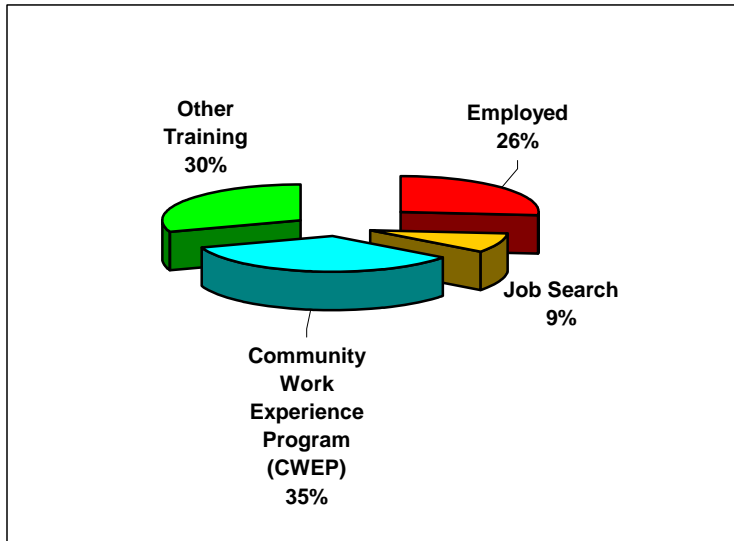
**•Teenaged Welfare Recipients**

Of the WFNJ/TANF population of 41,100 in December 2010, about 1,750 (4.2%) were teenaged recipients, aged 18 and 19, who were heads of their households.

## 2. Employment & Work Preparation

### •Participation of WFNJ TANF Clients in Employment-Directed Activities

For the month of December 2010, TANF clients were engaged in more than 15,700 work activities. About 4,100 (26 percent) of these individuals had begun working but were still receiving a partial cash assistance payment, due to income disregards.



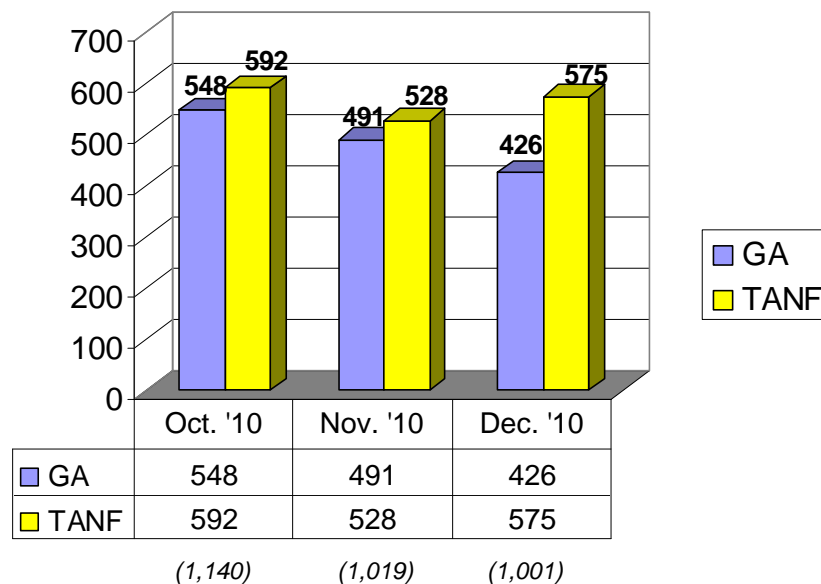
<b>Employed</b>	<b>4,114</b>
<b>Job Search</b>	<b>1,413</b>
<b>Community Work Experience Program (CWEP)</b>	<b>5,385</b>
<b>Other Training</b> -Occupational Training -Education -On the Job Training (OJT)	<b>4,742</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,654</b>

### •Cases that met the Federal Participation Requirement

Of the people scheduled to participate in the work-directed activities, 4,512 participated at levels sufficient to satisfy federal requirements.

### •Cases Closed Due to Employment

During the quarter, an average of about 1,050 WFNJ TANF and GA clients left welfare for employment each month.



**•Major Reasons for TANF Case Closings**

**October to December 2010**

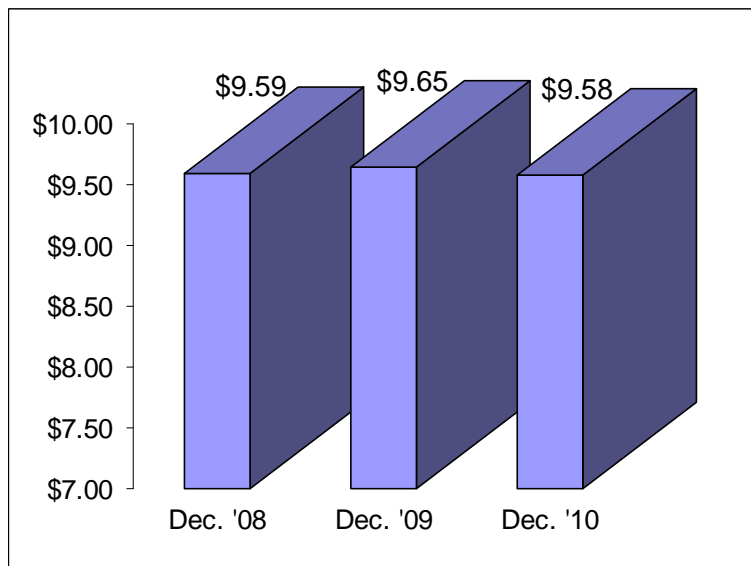
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>Due to Employment</b>	592	528	575	1,695
<b>No Eligible Children</b>	248	228	208	684
<b>No Redetermination</b>	139	121	135	395
<b>Moved Out of State</b>	121	119	92	332
<b>All Other Closed</b>	1,437	1,368	1,290	4,095
<i>(Unemployment Ins. Benefits)</i>	151	114	112	377
<i>(Recipient Withdrawal)</i>	180	141	109	430
<i>(Recipient Initiative)</i>	48	37	33	118
<i>(Moved to Another County)</i>	61	42	70	173
<i>(Unable to Verify Residence)</i>	91	79	62	232
<i>(Other Closed Cases)</i>	906	955	904	2,765
<b>Total Closed Cases</b>	<b>2,537</b>	<b>2,364</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>7,201</b>

**About 24 percent of all TANF cases closed during the quarter were closed due to employment.**

**•Earnings of Former TANF Recipients**

During the fourth quarter of 2010, WFNJ TANF recipients who were working were earning an average of \$9.58 per hour.

**Average Hourly Wages of Former TANF Recipients**





**•Statewide Job Openings**

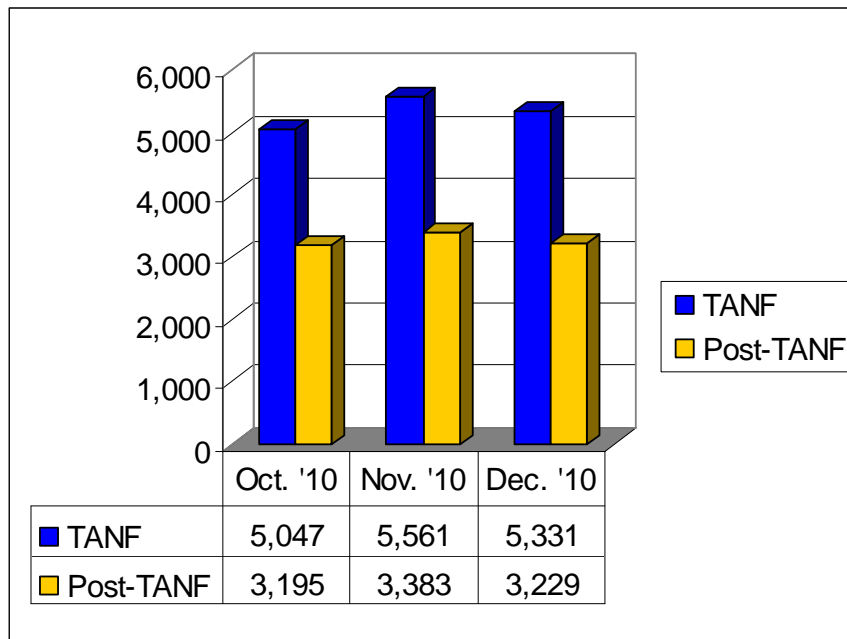
According to the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development, there were 63,016 job openings statewide during the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. The majority of positions available were in the Administration and Support, Waste Management and Remediation category, followed by the Retail Trade and Manufacturing fields.

<b>LWD statewide job openings</b>	
<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Openings</b>
Admin. & Support, Waste Mgt. & Remediation	13,561
Retail Trade	8,104
Manufacturing	6,415
Health Care & Social Assistance	5,421
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5,353
Transportation & Warehousing	4,721
Accommodation & Food Services	3,881
Public Administration	3,240
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	2,338
Information	2,034
Construction	1,608
Wholesale Trade	1,330
Other Services	1,316
Educational Services	1,177
Finance & Insurance	1,135
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting	622
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	439
Utilities	218
Management of Companies & Enterprises	72
Mining	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,016</b>

### 3. Child Care

As of December 2010, about 5,300 WFNJ TANF clients were receiving child care benefits. Post-TANF child care benefits were issued to nearly 3,200 families who had become employed and were no longer receiving cash assistance.

**WFNJ TANF Cases Receiving  
Child Care Benefits, December 2010**



### 4. WFNJ Program Expenditures

The attached Appendix provides a summary of WFNJ program expenditures for the quarter.

**NOTE: ALL CHARTS AND GRAPHS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED BY  
THE DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING CHARTS AND GRAPHS  
OR PROGRAM EXPENDITURES, PLEASE CONTACT  
JEANETTE PAGE-HAWKINS, DIRECTOR, AT 609-588-2401.**



**THE DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
WORK FIRST NEW JERSEY (WFNJ) EXPENDITURES  
Quarter Ending December 31, 2010**

	Actual Dec 31, 2009	Actual 'Mar 31, 2010	Actual June 30, 2010	Actual Sept 30, 2010	Estimated Dec 31, 2010	TOTAL COSTS CY 2009 1/09 - 12/09	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2010 7/09 - 6/10	TOTAL COSTS CY 2010 1/10 - 12/10	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2011 7/10 - 12/10
<b>(A) CASE MANAGEMENT</b>									
TANF	\$10,188,085	\$8,009,392	\$8,525,570	\$8,423,290	\$8,786,584	\$35,716,965	\$34,871,219	\$33,744,836	\$17,209,874
Food Stamps/Able Bodied Adults W/O Dependents	\$4,046,292	\$3,107,201	\$3,365,965	\$3,593,243	\$3,528,175	\$16,084,009	\$14,440,464	\$13,594,584	\$7,121,418
GA	\$2,956,767	\$2,187,768	\$2,389,480	\$2,199,469	\$2,433,371	\$10,762,871	\$9,998,726	\$9,210,089	\$4,632,841
<b>(B) SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICE</b>									
Special Initiative	\$1,403,252	\$1,610,275	\$787,370	\$35,147	\$959,011	\$5,885,269	\$5,625,814	\$3,391,803	\$994,158
<b>(C) CHILD CARE</b>	\$23,935,438	\$24,378,386	\$24,036,256	\$24,836,633	\$24,296,678	\$100,296,455	\$98,906,147	\$97,547,953	\$49,133,311
<b>(D) TRAINING RELATED EXPENSE, PARTICIPANT ALLOWANCE AND TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT</b>									
TANF	\$2,731,318	\$2,431,897	\$2,742,297	\$2,597,418	\$2,625,732	\$10,654,295	\$10,717,427	\$10,397,344	\$5,223,151
Food Stamps	\$981,603	\$808,102	\$1,092,243	\$990,802	\$968,188	\$3,691,001	\$3,710,976	\$3,859,335	\$1,958,990
GA	\$483,521	\$495,995	\$514,420	\$428,346	\$480,571	\$1,878,406	\$2,034,332	\$1,919,332	\$908,917
<b>(E) DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT - EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING</b>									
TANF	\$12,022,659	\$11,390,991	\$15,419,609	\$9,939,504	\$12,193,191	\$54,850,631	\$49,623,619	\$48,943,295	\$22,132,695
Food Stamps/Able Bodied Adults W/O Dependents	\$2,898,792	\$2,887,832	\$4,763,901	\$2,837,722	\$3,347,062	\$10,256,762	\$12,362,480	\$13,836,516	\$6,184,783
GA	\$1,927,559	\$1,920,271	\$3,145,503	\$1,755,837	\$2,187,292	\$7,109,218	\$8,231,758	\$9,008,904	\$3,943,130
<b>(F) OMEGA SYSTEM</b>	\$477,287	\$469,876	\$507,338	\$477,398	\$482,975	\$1,882,698	\$1,931,631	\$1,937,587	\$960,373
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$64,052,573</b>	<b>\$59,697,986</b>	<b>\$67,289,952</b>	<b>\$58,114,809</b>	<b>\$62,288,830</b>	<b>\$259,068,578</b>	<b>\$252,454,593</b>	<b>\$247,391,577</b>	<b>\$120,403,639</b>

**FOOTNOTES:**

ACTUAL expenditures are subject to subsequent adjustment and reconciliation to be reflected on future reports.

ACTUAL expenditures for OMEGA SYSTEM have been revised to reflect actual expenditures.